REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested. Claims 7-12 and 19-24 are under consideration. Claims 7 and 19 have been amended to confirm that the defined subject matter is a piezoelectric transformer in which the first and second amounts of adhesive have a defined structure such that one amount deforms the other amount. Support for these amendments is found at specification page 4, line 14-17, page 5, line 10-14 and in FIGURE 3.

Claims 12 and 24 have been amended to adjust antecedent basis in view of the amendments to corresponding parent claims 7 and 19, respectively.

The continued rejection of claims 7, 8, 10, 19, 20 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,828,159 to Miyagawa, U.S. Patent No. 5,699,027 to Tsuji or U.S. Patent No. 5,430,345 to Takahashi et al. None of these references disclose or discuss piezoelectric transformers and their special mounting challenges. None of the references disclose applications of conductive adhesive to create a defined structure.

Claims 9, 11, 12, 21, 23 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over the Miyagawa Patent, the Tsuji Patent or the Takahashi Patent. None of the cited references show or suggest mounting techniques for piezoelectric transformers and, in particular, an adhesive-only based mount. At page 6, lines 18-24, the specification describes the beneficial effects of the claimed mounting. Regarding claims 9 and 21, none of the cited references offer any guidance towards selecting a hardness level providing an improved transformer mounting. Withdrawal of the obviousness rejection is respectfully requested.

The prior art made of record but not applied against the claims has been reviewed with interest. However, it is not deemed to vitiate the patentability of the present process claims.

The present amendments to the claims and the accompanying discussion are believed to dispose of all issues in this case and to place this application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully Submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on 28 February 2003 in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Steven Weseman

2/28/03

Date

Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

In the Claims:

Please replace claim 7 as follows:

7. A PC board mounted piezoelectric transformer device comprising:

a PC board having a plurality of [PC board] mounting pads;

a piezoelectric transformer [device] having a plurality of piezoelectric mounting pads which correspond to the PC board mounting pads, the PC board and the piezoelectric transformer [device] attached in a spaced relationship at corresponding PC board mounting pads and piezoelectric mounting pads solely by a conductive adhesive attachment, each conductive adhesive attachment comprising:

a first amount of conductive adhesive attached to the piezoelectric mounting pad, the first amount of conductive adhesive determining a distance of the spaced relationship between the piezoelectric transformer [device] and the PC board; and

a second amount of conductive adhesive deformed and surrounding said first amount of conductive adhesive for attaching the piezoelectric transformer [device] to the PC board.

Please replace claim 12 as follows:

12. The device of claim 7 wherein the spaced relationship between the piezoelectric transformer [device] and the PC board is about 0.014" or greater.

Please replace claim 19 as follows:

19. A PC board mounted piezoelectric transformer device comprising:

a PC board having a plurality of PC board mounting pads;

a piezoelectric transformer [device] having a plurality of piezoelectric mounting pads which correspond to the PC board mounting pads, the PC board and the

piezoelectric transformer [device] attached in a spaced relationship at corresponding PC board mounting pads and piezoelectric mounting pads solely by a conductive adhesive attachment, each conductive adhesive attachment comprising:

a first amount of conductive adhesive attached to the PC board mounting pad, the first amount of conductive adhesive determining a distance of the spaced relationship between the piezoelectric transformer [device] and the PC board; and

a second amount of conductive adhesive deformed and surrounding said first amount of conductive adhesive for attaching the piezoelectric transformer [device] to the PC board.

Please replace claim 24:

24. The device of claim 19 wherein the spaced relationship between the piezoelectric transformer [device] and the PC board is about 0.014" or greater.